

3.5
AR071

February 13, 2004

Erin Bell
Natural Resource Conservation Service
Ogden Satellite Office
2871 S. Commerce Way
Ogden, Utah 84401

Subject: Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study; Moab, Utah
Request for Scoping Comments

Dear Erin Bell:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), is initiating a feasibility study for improvements to the US 191 crossing of the Colorado River from milepost 126.5 to milepost 129.5 near Moab in Grand County, Utah. The bridge is adjacent to Arches National Park on the northeast, the Department of Energy Moab Uranium Tailings Site on the northwest, the Matheson Wetland Preserve on the southwest, and the Grand County's Lions Park on the southeast.

The feasibility study will address the need for a new structure, future travel demand, and safety. The study includes the NEPA scoping process including public and agency scoping meetings, determining the purpose of and need for the project, identifying project alternatives, and identifying environmental concerns. Following the feasibility study FHWA and UDOT will prepare an environmental document.

To ensure that a full range of issues related to the proposed action are addressed and all significant issues are identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Your comments are being solicited as part of the NEPA public scoping process and will be used to identify alternatives and environmental concerns to be evaluated in the environmental document.

UDOT is holding an agency scoping meeting to discuss the proposed project on March 3, 2004 from 10:00 am to noon at the Grand County Council Chambers, 125 E. Center Street in Moab. You may also attend a public meeting on March 3 at the same location from 4-6 pm. The meeting will break into small group workshops from 6-8 pm. Please contact Laynee Jones by email or phone before February 27, 2004 to let us know if you will be able to attend.

We would appreciate your written comments before April 2, 2004 addressed to:

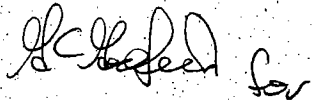
Laynee Jones
HDR Engineering, Inc.
3995 South 700 East, Suite 100
Salt Lake City, UT 84107
laynee.jones@hdrinc.com
(801) 281-8892

February 13, 2004
Page 2

We look forward to your response to this request and to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

HDR ENGINEERING, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laynee Jones", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Laynee Jones, P.E.
Environmental Lead

Identical Copies of this Letter Sent to the Following:

Erin Bell Natural Resource Conservation Service Ogden Satellite Office 2871 S. Commerce Way Ogden, UT 84401	Forrest Cuch Utah Community and Economic Development Division of Indian Affairs 324 South State Street, Suite 500 Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Bob Cox FEMA Region VIII PO Box 25267 Denver, CO 80225-0267	Rick Sprott, Director UDEQ Division of Air Quality 168 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, UT 84116
Nick Mezei US Army Corps of Engineers Colorado Basin Regulatory Office 400 Rood Avenue, Room 142 Grand Junction, CO 81501	Kevin Brown, Director UDEQ Division of Drinking Water 150 North 1950 West PO Box 144830 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4830
Deborah Lebow EPA Region VIII USEPA Mail Code 8-EPR-N 999 18 th Street, Suite 300 Denver, CO 80202-2466	Brad Johnson, Director UDEQ Division of Environmental Response and Remediation 168 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Henry Maddox US Fish and Wildlife Service 2369 West Orton Circle West Valley City, UT 84119	Robert Morgan, P.E., Executive Director UDNR Division of Wildlife Resources PO Box 145610 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5610
Don Ostler, Director UDEQ Division of Water Quality 288 North 1460 West PO Box 144870 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870	Carolyn Wright Utah Governor's Office Resource Development 1594 West North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84102
Sally Wisely, State Director Bureau of Land Management Utah State Office PO Box 45155 Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155	James Dykemann State Historic Preservation Office 300 South Rio Grande Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Phillip Breuck, Acting Superintendent Southeast Utah Group US National Park Service PO Box 907 Moab, UT 84532-0907	Donald R. Metzler Moab Program Manager US Department of Energy 2597 B ¾ Road Grand Junction, CO 81503
Chris Colt, Habitat Manager UDNR Division of Wildlife Resources Southeastern Region 475 West Price River Drive, Suite C Price, UT 84501	Dane Finerfrock, Director UDEQ Division of Radiation Control PO Box 144850 Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Maggie Wyatt Moab Field Office Manager Bureau of Land Management 82 East Dogwood Avenue Moab, UT 84532	Diane Nielson, Executive Director Utah Department of Environmental Quality PO Box 144810 Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Casey Ford Price Regional Office UDNR Division of Water Rights 453 South Carbon Avenue Price, UT 84501	



State of Utah

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GAYLE McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOHN R. NJORD, P.E.
Executive Director

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E.
Deputy Director

3.5

AR072

February 13, 2004

Mr. Dave Sakrison
Mayor, City of Moab
115 West 200 South
Moab, Ut 84532

Subject: Project #: BRF-0191(23)128
Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study; Moab, Utah

Dear Mr. Sakrison:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) are conducting a feasibility study for improvements to the US 191 crossing of the Colorado River from milepost 126.5 to milepost 129.5 near Moab in Grand County, Utah, as shown on the attached map. The bridge is adjacent to Arches National Park on the northeast, the Department of Energy Moab Uranium Tailings Site on the northwest, the Matheson Wetland Preserve on the southwest, and Grand County's Lions Park on the southeast.

The feasibility study will address the need for a new structure, future travel demand, and safety. The study includes public and agency scoping meetings, completing a cultural resource literature search and initial project notification, determining the purpose of and need for the project, identifying project alternatives, and identifying environmental concerns. Following the feasibility study FHWA and UDOT will prepare an environmental document in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, and complete a cultural resource inventory.

The project may extend beyond the existing UDOT right-of-way, depending on the alternatives developed in the feasibility study. The potential alternatives are not expected to extend beyond the limits shown on the attached map.

FHWA and the UDOT request that you review this information to determine if there are any historic properties of cultural importance that may be affected by this undertaking. If you feel that there are any historic properties that may be impacted, we request your notification as such and your participation as a consulting party during the development of the environmental document.

UDOT is holding a public meeting on March 3, 2004 at the Grand County Council Chambers, 125 E. Center Street in Moab 4-6 pm. The meeting will break into small group workshops from 6-8 pm. Please feel free to attend for more information on the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Miller".

Susan Miller, NEPA/NHPA Specialist
Region Four Environmental

Enclosure

USGS 1:24000 Project Map

Cc: (w/enclosure)

Sandra Garcia, FHWA

Mike Miles, UDOT Region 4

Daryl Friant, Environmental Engineer

Laynee Jones, HDR

Identical Copies of this Letter Sent to the Following:

Mr. Dave Sakrison Mayor, City of Moab 115 West 200 South Moab, UT 84532	Mr. Al McLeod Council Member, Grand County 125 East Center Street Moab, UT 84532
Mr. Rex Tanner Council Member, Grand County 125 East Center Street Moab, UT 84532	Mr. Jim Lewis Council Member, Grand County 125 East Center Street Moab, UT 84532
Mr. Nat Knight Council Member, Grand County 125 East Center Street Moab, UT 84532	Ms. Margaret Patterson Moab Chapter of the Utah Statewide Archaeological Society PO Box 40031 Thompson Springs, UT 84540
Ms. Judy Carmichael Council Member, Grand County 125 East Center Street Moab, UT 84532	Mr. Ron Anderson Utah Historic Trails Consortium 3651 Jasmine Street West Valley City, UT 84120
Ms. Joette Langianese Council Member, Grand County 125 East Center Street Moab, UT 84532	Ms. Rusty Salmon Grand County Historic Preservation Commission & Certified Local Government Programs HC 64 Box 2012 Castle Valley, UT 84532
Mr. Jerry McNeely Council Member, Grand County 125 East Center Street Moab, UT 84532	

Jones, Laynee G.

From: Loren Morton [lmorton@utah.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2004 5:44 PM
To: Jones, Laynee G.
Cc: Donald.Metzler@gjo.doe.gov; Dane Finerfrock; Daryl Friant; Kim Manwill
Subject: UDOT EIS for Moab Bridge Improvements

Laynee,

This email is in response to your February 13 letter regarding the upcoming NEPA public scoping process for the proposed improvements for Highway 191 bridge over the Colorado River near Moab, Utah.

We appreciate your invitation to participate in this process. However, we would suggest that you would be better served by involving the staff of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in Grand Junction Colorado, who own and operate the nearby Moab Tailings site found a short distance north of the bridge.

Currently, DOE staff are in process of preparing a draft Environmental Impact Statement for reclamation of the historic Moab Tailings site. These reclamation activities may include a significant amount of truck traffic during haulage of either the tailings to another location, or for import of cover system borrow materials from gravel pits found in the southern portion of Spanish Valley. I would recommend you contact the following staff at the DOE Grand Junction Office:

Don Metzler
Project Manager
Grand Junction Office
U.S. Department of Energy
2597 B 3/4 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503
970-248-7612
Donald.Metzler@gjo.doe.gov

If you have questions, please call me at the number below. Thanks again for the invitation to participate in the upcoming NEPA process.

Respectfully,

Loren Morton
Utah Division of Radiation Control
Phone 801-536-4262
Fax 801-533-4097
Email lmorton@utah.gov

Project:	Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study	Project No:	10293
Date:	Feb 20, 04	Subject:	Agency Coordination
Call to:	Laynee Jones	Phone No:	281-8892
Call from:	Chris Colt Utah Division of Wildlife Resourcesq	Phone No:	

I:\templates\HDR_Telephone_Record.doc

Discussion, Agreement and/or Action:

Chris called to respond to the Feb 13 letter. He said that since USFWS would be involved, UDWR would defer to USFWS. He indicated that UDNR owns part of the Matheson wetlands preserve. He did not have any comments at this time and said he would not be attending the scoping meeting.



State of Utah

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GAYLE McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOHN R. NJORD, P.E.
Executive Director

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E.
Deputy Director

1.4
AR031

FEB 26 2004

February 23, 2004

Mr. James Dykmann, Deputy SHPO – Archaeology
Division of State History
300 Rio Grande
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1182

RE: BRF-0191(23)128; Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study
Section 106 & U.C.A. 9-8-404 compliance
Project Notification

Dear Mr. Dykmann:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) are conducting a feasibility study for improvements to the US 191 crossing of the Colorado River from milepost 126.5 to milepost 129.5 near Moab in Grand County, Utah, as shown on the attached map. The bridge is adjacent to Arches National Park on the northeast, the Department of Energy Moab Uranium Tailings Site on the northwest, the Matheson Wetland Preserve on the southwest, and Grand County's Lions Park on the southeast.

The feasibility study will address the need for a new structure, future travel demand, and safety. The study includes public and agency scoping meetings, completing a cultural resource literature search and initial project notification, determining the purpose of and need for the project, identifying project alternatives, and identifying environmental concerns. No cultural resource inventory is being undertaken at this time. Following the feasibility study, FHWA and UDOT will prepare an environmental document in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and will complete a cultural resource inventory.

The project may extend beyond the existing UDOT right-of-way, depending on the alternatives developed in the feasibility study. The potential alternatives are not expected to extend beyond the limits shown on the attached map. Please review the enclosed and comment on the adequacy of these boundaries as the area of potential effects.

The FHWA and UDOT are also notifying a number of potential consulting parties in the Section 106 process: the White Mesa Ute Council, the Ute Mountain Ute, the Navajo Nation, the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, the Uintah/Ouray Ute, the Southern Ute, and the Hopi Tribe. Other potential consulting parties contacted include the Grand County Historic Preservation Commission, the Moab Chapter of the Utah Statewide Archaeological Society, the Utah Historic Trails Consortium, the Grand County Council, and the city of Moab. Please recommend other potential consulting parties that you may know.

Colorado Bridge Study
February 23, 2004
Page 2

A response within 30 days would be appreciated should you have concerns about this project. Please feel free to contact me at (435) 893-4573 to answer any questions or provide any additional information.

UDOT is holding a public meeting on March 3, 2004 at the Grand County Council Chambers, 125 E. Center Street in Moab 4-6 pm. The meeting will break into small group workshops from 6-8 pm. Please feel free to attend.

Thank you for your attention to this project notification and any comments you may have.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan G. Miller".

Susan G. Miller, NEPA/NHPA Specialist
Region Four Environmental

Enclosures

USGS 1:24000 Project Map

cc: Sandra Garcia, FHWA
Daryl Friant, Environmental Engineer
Kim Manwill, Project Manager
Laynee Jones, HDR

14
AR114**Jones, Laynee G.**

From: Steven Parkin [sparkin@utah.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2004 11:57 AM
To: Jones, Laynee G.
Subject: March 3rd, Moab, US 191

Laynee,

Thank you for the invitation to participate in your scoping meeting(s) of March 3, 2004 in Moab to discuss proposed improvements to US 191 crossing the Colorado River.

Unfortunately, we do not have staff and resources to attend and respectfully defer responsible decisions to UDOT who is familiar with their obligations to reduce/control fugitive dust during bridge, embankment and road work projects of this kind.

Regards,

Steven Parkin,
UDEQ Division Of Air Quality
(801)536-4014

2/27/2004

Project:	Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study	Project No:	10293
Date:	Feb 24, 04	Subject:	Agency Coordination
Call to:	Laynee Jones	Phone No:	281-8892
Call from:	Nick Mezei USACOE	Phone No:	970-243-1199 x 13

I:\templates\HDR_Telephone_Record.doc

Discussion, Agreement and/or Action:

Nick called to respond to the Feb 13 letter he received. He suggested that we include the Utah Division of Water Rights since the stream may be impacted but there will not be a lot of wetlands impacted. He said as long as the UDWR was involved impacts USACOE would not participate or provide any comments. He is aware of the Matheson wetlands preserve but did not think we would impact a large number of wetlands there. He requested that we minimize impacts to wetlands.

Project:	Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study	Project No:	10293
Date:	Feb 24, 04	Subject:	Agency Coordination
Call to:	Laynee Jones	Phone No:	281-8892
Call from:	Cheryl Heying Utah Division of Air Quality	Phone No:	536-4015

i:\templates\HDR_Telephone_Record.doc

Discussion, Agreement and/or Action:

Cheryl called to confirm that the UDAQ would not be attending the agency scoping meeting or providing comment on the project in response to our Feb 13 letter



U.S. Department
Of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Utah Division
2520 West 4700 South, Ste. 9A
Salt Lake City, UT 84118-1847

February 26, 2004

Ms. Judy Knight Frank, Chairperson
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
P.O. Box 109
Towaoc, CO 81334

Subject: Project #: BRF -0191(23)128
Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study; Moab, Utah
Request to be a Consulting Party



Dear Ms. Frank:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) are conducting a feasibility study for improvements to the US 191 crossing of the Colorado River from milepost 126.5 to milepost 129.5 near Moab in Grand County, Utah, as shown on the attached map. The bridge is adjacent to Arches National Park on the northeast, the Department of Energy Moab Uranium Tailings Site on the northwest, the Matheson Wetland Preserve on the southwest, and Grand County's Lions Park on the southeast.

The feasibility study will address the need for a new structure, future travel demand, and safety. The study includes public and agency scoping meetings, completing a cultural resource literature search and initial project notification, determining the purpose of and need for the project, identifying project alternatives, and identifying environmental concerns. No cultural resource inventory is being undertaken at this time. Following the feasibility study FHWA and UDOT will prepare an environmental document in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

In accordance with the regulations published by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR Part 800, the FHWA and the UDOT request that you review this information to determine if there are any historic properties of traditional religious and/or cultural importance that may be affected by this undertaking. If you feel that there are any historic properties that may be impacted, we request your notification as such and your participation as a consulting party during the development of the environmental document.

The project may extend beyond the existing UDOT right-of-way, depending on the alternatives developed in the feasibility study. The potential alternatives are not expected to extend beyond the limits shown on the attached map.

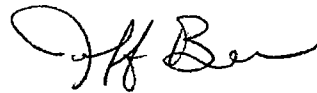
At your request, FHWA and UDOT staff will be available to meet with you to discuss any concerns you might have. Please be assured that we will maintain strict confidentiality about certain types of information regarding traditional religious and/or cultural historic properties that might be affected by this proposed undertaking. We would also appreciate any suggestions you might have about any other groups or individuals that we should contact regarding this project.

A response within 30 days would be appreciated should you have concerns about this project and/or wish to be a consulting party. Please feel free to contact me at 801-963-0078, extension 235, to answer any questions or provide any additional information.

UDOT is holding a public meeting on March 3, 2004, at the Grand County Council Chambers, 125 E. Center Street in Moab 4-6 pm. The meeting will break into small group workshops from 6-8 pm. Please feel free to attend.

Thank you for your attention to this project notification and any comments you may have.

Respectfully

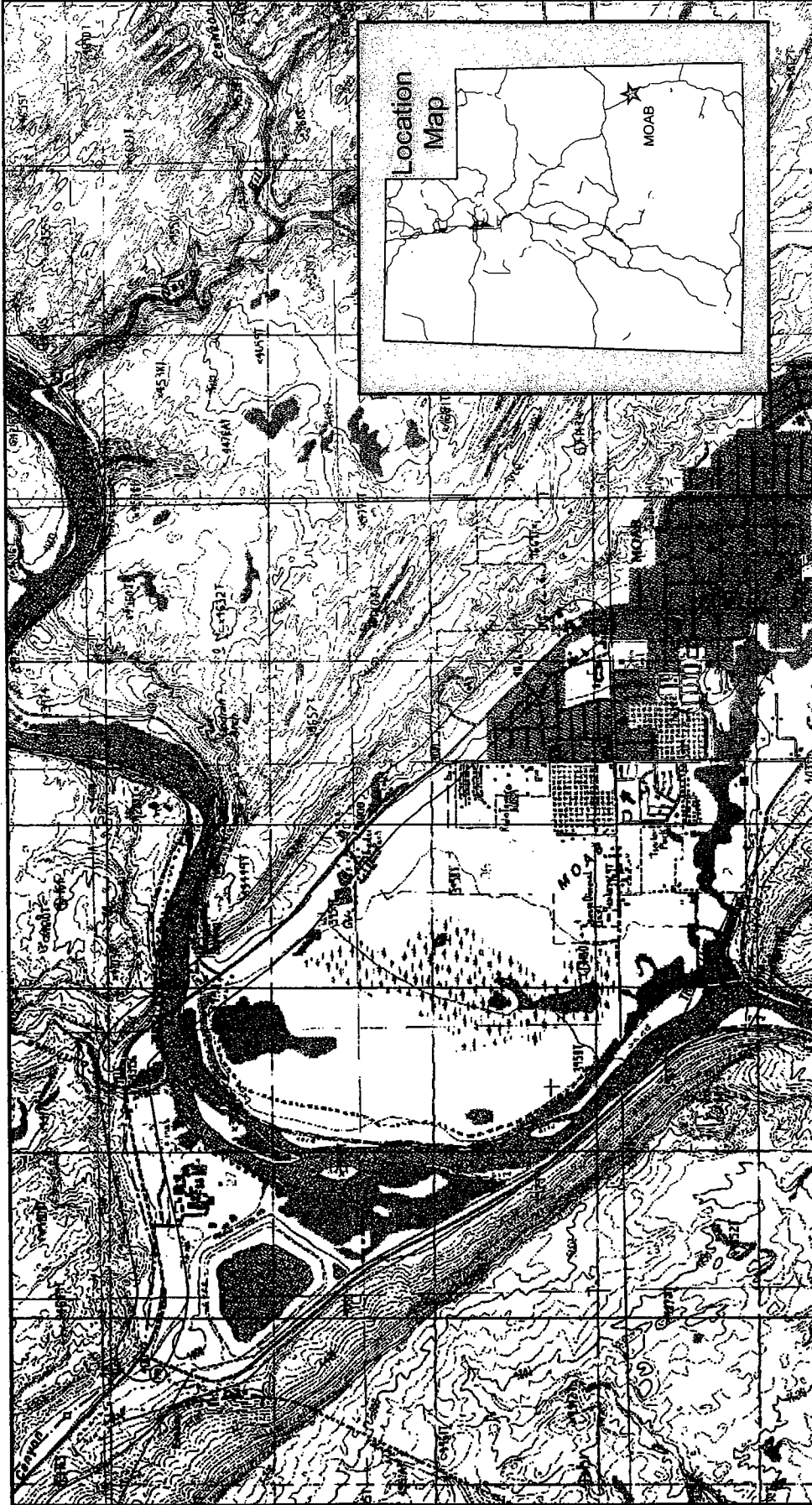
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Berna".

Jeff Berna
Environmental Specialist


Enclosures

USGS 1:24000 Project Map (██████)

cc: Susan Miller, UDOT Region 4
Mr. Terry Knight, Cultural Representative, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe



LEGEND

 Preliminary Study Area (Approximately 1000 Feet Wide)

Colorado River Bridge

February 2004



1:24,000

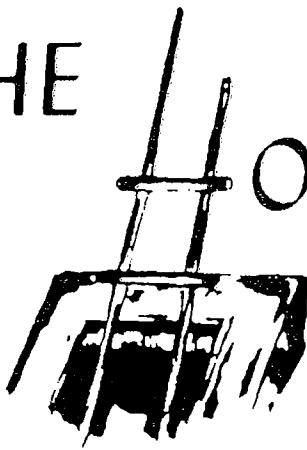


IDENTICAL COPIES OF THIS LETTER SENT TO THE FOLLOWING:

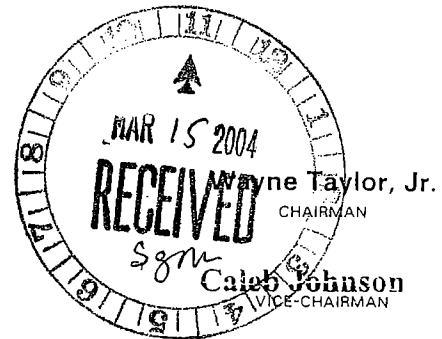
Tribal Contacts List For : Project #: BRF-0191(23)128, PIN: 3418
 Project Description: Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study
 Moab, Utah

Original to:	CC to:
Mr. Liegh Kuwanwisiwma Director, Hopi Cultural Preservation Office P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039	
Dr. Alan Downer, Director. Historic Preservation Department Navajo Nation P.O. Box 4950 Window Rock, AZ 86515	
Mr. Terry Knight Cultural Representative Ute Mountain Ute Tribe P.O. Box 53 Towaoc, CO 81334	Ms. Judy Knight Frank Chairwoman Manuel Ute Mountain Ute Tribe heart P.O. Box 109 Towaoc, CO 81334 563-0100
Ms. Elaine Atcitty Chair, White Mesa Ute Council P.O. Box 7096 White Mesa, UT 84511	
Ms. Maxine Natchees Chairwoman Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah/Ouray Agency P.O. Box 190 Fort Duchesne, UT 84026	Ms. Betsy Chapoose Director of Cultural Rights and Protection Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah/Ouray Agency P.O. Box 190 Fort Duchesne, UT 84026
Mr. Leonard Burch Chair, Southern Ute Tribe P.O. Box 737 Ignacio, Colorado 81137	Chairman Clemente J. Roth PO 737
Ms. Lora E. Tom Chairwoman, The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah 440 North Paiute Drive Cedar City, UT 84720	Ms. Dorena Martineau Cultural Resource Director The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah 440 North Paiute Drive Cedar City, UT 84720

THE



OPI TRIBE



March 2, 2004

Jeffery Berna, Environmental Specialist
Federal Highway Administration, Utah Division
2520 West 4700 South, Ste. 9A
Salt Lake City, Utah 84118-1847

Re: Project #: BRO-LC19 (7) Thompson Wash Bridge Replacement
Project #: BRF-0191(23)128, Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study, Moab, Utah

Dear Mr. Berna,

Thank you for your correspondences dated February 25 and 26, 2004, regarding the Federal Highway Administration and Utah Department of Transportation initiating an environmental study for the Thompson Wash Bridge Replacement in Thompson Springs, and conducting a feasibility study for improvements to the US 191 crossing of the Colorado River from mileposts 126.5 to 129.5 near Moab. As you know, the Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Utah, and the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites.

Therefore, in response to your letters, we would like to be kept informed of these proposals. Please provide us for review and comment with a copy of the cultural resource survey report by EarthTouch for the Thompson Wash Bridge Replacement project, and the literature search report for the Colorado River Bridge feasibility study. Following the feasibility study, we also request the opportunity to review and comment on a cultural resource survey report on the Colorado River Bridge project area.

As you also know, we appreciate the Federal Highway Administration and the Utah Department of Transportation's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Susan Miller, Utah Department of Transportation
Utah State Historic Preservation Office

5.1.1
AR083

Jones, Laynee G.

From: Lowell Braxton [lowellbraxton@utah.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2004 1:24 PM
To: Jones, Laynee G.
Subject: RE: Scoping Comments Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study, Moab, Utah

Laynee, Please send to Bob Morgan with a copy to Val Payne at the same address. Thanks

>>> "Jones, Laynee G." <Laynee.Jones@hdrinc.com> 03/02/04 12:46PM >>>
Lowell:

Thank you for your response. I will keep UDNR on the agency correspondence list for the project. Should future correspondence be addressed to you or Bob Morgan or both?

Laynee Jones
801-281-8892 x136

-----Original Message-----

From: Lowell Braxton [mailto:lowellbraxton@utah.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2004 12:03 PM
To: Jones, Laynee G.
Cc: Bob Morgan; Val Payne
Subject: Scoping Comments Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study, Moab, Utah

Laynee, I am responding to your letter asking for scoping comments for the above Feasibility Study, per your letter to Bob Morgan, Executive Director, Utah Department of Natural Resources. Any construction activity in the Colorado River corridor must weigh the benefits to human health and safety against the possible environmental impacts. Increased

vehicular and non-motorized traffic in the area of the proposed study clearly support the Feasibility Study, and the Utah Department of Natural Resources is supportive of the study on this basis.

As indicated in your letter, the juxtaposition of the Arches National Park entrance, the Matheson Wetlands Preserve and the Grand County Lions Park to the project plus the value of the river corridor and its use by wildlife all support careful environmental analysis should the project proceed beyond the Feasibility Study phase. The Utah Department of Natural Resources will be an active player in any NEPA environmental analysis subsequent to scoping. We have no plans to attend the March 3 scoping meeting in Moab, however. Please keep the Utah Department of Natural Resources on your correspondence list for this project, and thank you for the opportunity of providing this comment.

Lowell Braxton
Director, Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

5.1.1
AR085**Jones, Laynee G.**

From: Mezei, Nick SPK [Nick.Mezei@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2004 10:03 AM
To: Jones, Laynee G.
Subject: US 191 bridge improvement scoping comments

Laynee:

Sorry I missed your scoping meeting yesterday. I would like to forward several comments to you to consider as part of the scoping process.

1. The Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act extends to regulating of fills in jurisdictional wetlands, and in rivers and streams below the level of the ordinary high water elevation. Excavation is not regulated unless there is a fill associated. Activities falling within our jurisdiction require a Department of the Army permit (404 permit) in order to be compliant with the Clean Water Act. In the State of Utah, the Corps and the state share a general permit for stream modifications, and the state typically takes the lead for stream modification activities.
2. Based on conversations, it appears that there may be wetland areas along the river channel in the vicinity of the bridge over the Colorado River, which may be impacted by bridge modification. There may be other locations along the proposed 3 mile stretch of highway that may involve wetland areas also. In addition, fills below the ordinary high water level of the river, such as piers and cofferdams, are also regulated.
3. A mapping of the jurisdictional areas, and delineation of wetlands if any exist, within the work corridor is highly recommended, in order to assess whether a 404 permit may be required. If impacts can be avoided, then such actions must be taken. If impacts cannot be reasonably be avoided, then permitting and mitigation of impacts must be considered. Even if impacts can be avoided, mapping of jurisdictional areas can be valuable so that workers in the vicinity can be instructed to avoid the jurisdictional areas.
4. Temporary work in waters of the U.S. may also be regulated, even if there will not be permanent impacts.
5. It is our understanding that the reach of the Colorado River in the project area is critical habitat for several native fish, and we recommend that you contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine their concerns, in case you have not yet done so.

It is the intent of the Corps of Engineers to cooperate with potential permit applicants to attain project goals in an environmentally sensitive manner. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments relating to your project.

Nick

Nick.Mezei@usace.army.mil
970.243.1199 x-13

3/10/2004



Project: BRF-019(23)128

TELEPHONE RECORD

Date: March 9, 2004; 11:55 am
Call to: Deborah Lebow, EPA Denver
Phone Number: 303-312-6226
Call from: Laynee Jones, HDR
Purpose: Agency Coordination, Response to Feb. 13, 2004 letter to EPA

Discussion

- Deborah called to discuss the February 13, 2004 letter to EPA describing the project and requesting comments. I returned her call.
- Deborah asked about what COE permits would be required for the project. I said that there may be a 404 permit required for wetland impacts and a stream alteration permit would probably be required. I told her that the COE deferred to the Utah Division of Water Rights for any stream alteration permits because COE thought that any wetland impacts would be minor.
- Deborah asked if the project would require an EA or an EIS. I said we wouldn't make that determination until later in the feasibility study, but anticipated an EA at this time.
- Deborah asked what bridge alternatives would be evaluated. I said that most likely the bridge will be re-constructed near its present location. One alternative may be constructing another bridge next to the current one while traffic moved on the old bridge. Then the new bridge could be opened to traffic and the old bridge reconstructed.
- Deborah said based on our conversation EPA would not be involved in this project and had no comment. She requested that we contact EPA if we determined that an EIS is required.

Distribution: Project File

This report represents the understanding of the Preparer. If you feel that an item needs clarification or correction, please provide your comments to the Preparer in writing. The Preparer will resolve the issue and distribute the revised minutes in a legislative format.



OF UTAH

Moab Project Office

Moab Project Office
P. O. Box 1329
Moab, Utah
84532

TEL 435 259-4629
FAX 435 259-2677

Utah Field Office
559 East South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah
84102

TEL 801 531-0999
FAX 801 531-1003

International Headquarters
Arlington, Virginia
TEL 703 841-5300

5.1.2
AR090

MAR 19 2004

March 16, 2004

Nicole Donegan
c/o Colorado River Bridge Project
3995 South 700 East, Suite 100
Salt Lake City, UT 84107

Dear Ms. Donegan,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments during this public scoping period for the Colorado River Bridge Study. The Nature Conservancy (the Conservancy), has worked cooperatively in the past with the UDOT in Utah toward the conservation of biological resources, and has a lengthy involvement in land management issues. This is consistent with the Conservancy's stated mission, which is to maintain the existence of native plants and animals by conserving the habitats and ecological processes that they need to survive. The Conservancy also recognizes that conservation of scarce or sensitive biological resources must occur in conjunction with land-use activities that meet the social and economic needs of people.

Proceeding from this background, the Conservancy is interested in the following issues.

Protection of our private property and DWR property

- The Nature Conservancy and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources jointly own and manage an approximately 900 acre wetland preserve adjacent to the current river bridge. We are concerned about any potential impacts to our property as a result of construction and other activities associated with building a new bridge.
- Furthermore our property protects a significant wetland ecosystem along the Colorado River. Wetlands harbor an incredible diversity of plants and animals and provide a number of important functions including groundwater storage and release, flood water attenuation, filtration, and purification of water, to name a few. Any impacts to this system that would interrupt these natural functions would be considered unacceptable.

- Management concerns such as fire potential, access to existing utility lines, natural gas pipelines, hunter access on the north end, and access to wells and other infrastructure, require unimpeded access into our property. Consideration must be given to maintaining these entry points at all times during any construction of the river bridge and associated activities.

T & E and Special Status Species

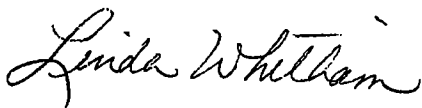
The Conservancy would like to see primacy given to protection of Endangered, Threatened and Sensitive species where they may be adversely affected by any activities associated with the construction of the river bridge.

- Through our ecoregional planning efforts we have identified several endangered, threatened and sensitive species found both in the river and in the adjacent riparian area. These species include: Southwestern willow flycatcher, Lucy's warbler, neotropical migratory birds, bonytail chub, humpback chub, razorback sucker and pikeminnow. This study needs to take these species into consideration and ensure their protection before proceeding with plans for a new bridge.

Finally, we would like to offer a Preferred Alternative for your consideration as the study proceeds. To minimize impacts to the Matheson Wetlands Preserve including the concerns cited above, we recommend the new river bridge be built in place where the existing bridge now sits. Recognizing that there will be inconveniences no matter what alternative is selected, we feel this would create the minimal impact. Furthermore we recommend including in the design a pedestrian bridge that could be attached to the new bridge structure.

Once again, thank you for your consideration of these comments. We look forward to a productive working relationship as the Colorado River Bridge Study proceeds.

Sincerely,



Linda Whitham
San Rafael Area Program Manager
The Nature Conservancy

CC: Chris Montague, TNC in Utah Conservation Program Director



State of Utah

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GAYLE McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

WES CURTIS
State Planning Coordinator

Resource Development Coordinating Committee

GLADE SOWARDS
Committee Chairman

JOHN A. HARJA
Executive Director

5.1.1
AR079

MAR 25 2004

March 24, 2004

Laynee Jones
HDR Engineering, Inc.
3995 South 700 East, Suite 100
Salt Lake City, Utah 84107

SUBJECT: Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study, Moab, Utah
Project No. 04-3713

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Resource Development Coordinating Committee (RDCC), representing the State of Utah, has reviewed this proposal, and state agencies comments are as follows:

Utah Geological Survey, Environmental Sciences Program

There are known significant vertebrate track localities in the highway right-of-way adjacent to the Colorado River Bridge. The office of the State Paleontologist therefore recommends that potential impacts to paleontological resources be identified as one of issues to be addressed in this feasibility study.

Division of Parks and Recreation

We encourage wide pedestrian/bike lanes in association with the motor vehicle bridge for north-south and east-west bike traffic--consistent with the Governor's Olympic Trail Initiative.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity to review this proposal. Please direct any other written questions regarding this correspondence to the Resource Development Coordinating Committee at the above address or call Carolyn Wright at (801) 538-5535 or myself at (801) 538-5559.

Sincerely,

John Harja
Executive Director
Resource Development Coordinating Committee



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY, FIRE AND STATE LANDS

5.1.1

AR078

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Kathleen Clarke
Executive Director

Arthur W. DuFault
State Forester/Director

Southeastern Area
1165 South Highway 191, Suite 6
Moab, Utah 84532-3062
435-259-3766
435-259-3755 (Fax)

MAR 26 2004

Laynee Jones
HDR Engineering, Inc
3005 South 700 East, Suite 100
Salt Lake City, Ut 84107

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands supports the concept that the highway bridge over the Colorado River will need to be replaced in the fore-seeable future. This need is based on safety issues primarily dealing with its structural integrity, lane width standards/shoulders and the current bridge not accommodating pedestrians and bicyclists, as well as the capacity may not meet future travel demand. The lead contact for this project will be James Montella who may be reached by mail at 1165 So HWY 191, Suite 6, Moab, Ut 84532, phone 435-259-3762 or e-mail jamesmontella@utah.gov.

The Division has several issues that we are concerned about with this project. One concern is the potential impact on surface water flows into the Matheson Preserve. The construction and re-alignment of the bridge could have a negative affect on the preserve. The preserve is a critical use area by numerous birds and water fowl.

Another concern is the potential impact on various endangered fish in the river system. The project could have a negative impact on habitat and/or reproduction.

We would encourage you to work with the appropriate entities on determining if any negative impacts may occur and the mitigation of these impacts.

A concern may exist if construction work occurs during the summer when a wildfire hazard may exist in the riparian zone. Equipment and workers could pose a risk of starting a fire along the river. This concern may be mitigated by using some standard fire prevention actions.

Sincerely,

Gary Cornell
Area Manager SE



United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

UTAH FIELD OFFICE
2369 WEST ORTON CIRCLE, SUITE 50
WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH 84119

In Reply Refer To

FWS/R6
ES/UT
04-0555

April 2, 2004

APR 08 2004

Laynee Jones
HDR Engineering, Inc.
3995 South 700 East, Suite 100
Salt Lake City, Utah 84107

RE: Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study, Moab, Utah

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the scoping documents related to the feasibility study for improvements to the US-191 crossing of the Colorado River, near Moab, Utah. The purpose of the project is to correct structural deficiencies in the current bridge. We understand you have already received a species list from this office. We are providing the following comments for your consideration in your environmental analysis.

In Section 1 of this letter we convey our concerns that should be addressed in the NEPA compliance document for this project. Section 2 of this letter addresses your Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 7 responsibilities.

Section 1.

This reach of the river lies within critical habitat for the Colorado pikeminnow, bonytail chub, and razorback sucker; where they are known to occur and spawning may take place. The construction activities for both projects could affect physical habitat and water quality. Construction of a new bridge structure could result in the following effects on species within the project area:

1. Habitat loss, modification, and degradation within designated critical habitat.
2. Lethal or sublethal water or soil contamination from the construction operations. Even small, nonlethal amounts of contaminants may impair olfactory responses of the fish with potential behavior and reproductive success implications.

3. Channel bottom disturbance and flow alterations will occur due to cofferdam construction and permanent bridge foundations in the riverbed. Excessive sedimentation could inhibit the prey base for fish species by filling interstitial spaces where macroinvertebrates reside, as well as reducing potential spawning habitat. Dewatering may negatively affect migration.

The feasibility of combining this project with the nearby proposed pedestrian bridge project should be examined. We note that the pedestrian bridge is projected to begin construction within two years, thereby precluding combining the two projects. If, however, this project is delayed such that combining the two bridges could become feasible, we encourage UDOT and FHWA to consider an integrated bicycle-pedestrian-motorized function for a single bridge at the US-191 crossing. Combining the two structures into one would: require only one set of bridge foundations; constrict the river in only one location; and reduce the number of cofferdam intrusions during construction. With the two projects being in relatively close proximity, we recommend keeping open the possibility of satisfying the needs of the two projects with one structure. This would be the least impactful alternative relative to fish and wildlife.

The proposed project is within the migratory and breeding range of the Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), a small bird that inhabits riparian areas in southern Utah. Southwestern willow flycatcher breeding habitat is typified by areas of dense riparian vegetation. Breeding sites are normally near standing water or saturated soil. Please review the proposed action and determine if the action could have an impact on potential Southwestern willow flycatcher habitat.

We recommend that your environmental analysis specifically examine potential short-term and long-term impacts to migratory birds and their habitat. The analysis should identify any conservation and mitigation measures in the alternatives aimed at conserving migratory bird habitats and populations. The *Utah Partners in Flight Avian Conservation Strategy* (Parrish et al., 2002) may be useful in preparing this analysis.

In addition, we recommend use of the *Utah Field Office Guidelines for Raptor Protection from Human and Land Use Disturbances* (Romin and Muck, 2002) which were developed in part to provide consistent application of raptor protection measures statewide and provide full compliance with environmental laws regarding raptor protection. Raptor surveys and mitigation measures are provided in the Raptor Guidelines as recommendations to ensure that proposed projects will avoid adverse impacts to raptors.

Section 2.

Federal agencies have specific additional responsibilities under section 7 of the ESA. To help you fulfill these responsibilities, we are providing an updated list of threatened (T), endangered (E) and candidate (C) species that may occur within the area of influence of your proposed action.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Status</u>
Jones Cycladenia	<i>Cycladenia humilis</i> var. <i>jonesii</i>	T
Bonytail ^{1,2}	<i>Gila elegans</i>	E
Colorado Pikeminnow ^{1,2}	<i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>	E
Humpback Chub ^{1,2}	<i>Gila cypha</i>	E
Razorback Sucker ^{1,2}	<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>	E
Bald Eagle ³	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	T
California Condor ⁴	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	E
Gunnison Sage Grouse	<i>Centrocercus minimus</i>	C
Mexican Spotted Owl ^{1,3}	<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	T
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	E
Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	C
Black-footed Ferret ⁵	<i>Mustela nigripes</i>	E

¹ Critical habitat designated in this county.

² Water depletions from *any* portion of the occupied drainage basin are considered to adversely affect or adversely modify the critical habitat of the endangered fish species, and must be evaluated with regard to the criteria described in the pertinent fish recovery programs.

³ Nests in this county of Utah.

⁴ Experimental nonessential population.

⁵ Historical range.

The proposed action should be reviewed and a determination made if the action will affect any listed species or their critical habitat. If it is determined by the Federal agency, with the written concurrence of the Service, that the action is not likely to adversely affect listed species or critical habitat, the consultation process is complete, and no further action is necessary.

Formal consultation (50 CFR 402.14) is required if the Federal agency determines that an action is "likely to adversely affect" a listed species or will result in jeopardy or adverse modification of critical habitat (50 CFR 402.02). Federal agencies should also confer with the Service on any action which is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any proposed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitat (50 CFR 402.10). A written request for formal consultation or conference should be submitted to the Service with a completed biological assessment and any other relevant information (50 CFR 402.12).

Candidate species have no legal protection under the ESA. Candidate species are those species for which we have on file sufficient information to support issuance of a proposed rule to list under the ESA. Identification of candidate species can assist environmental planning efforts by providing advance notice of potential listings, allowing resource managers to alleviate threats and, thereby, possibly remove the need to list species as endangered or threatened. Even if we subsequently list this candidate species, the early notice provided here could result in fewer restrictions on activities by prompting candidate conservation measures to alleviate threats to this species.

Only a Federal agency can enter into formal ESA section 7 consultation with the Service. A Federal agency may designate a non-Federal representative to conduct informal consultation or prepare a biological assessment by giving written notice to the Service of such a designation. The ultimate responsibility for compliance with ESA section 7, however, remains with the Federal agency.

Your attention is also directed to section 7(d) of the ESA, as amended, which underscores the requirement that the Federal agency or the applicant shall not make any irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources during the consultation period which, in effect, would deny the formulation or implementation of reasonable and prudent alternatives regarding their actions on any endangered or threatened species.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. If you need further assistance, please contact Betsy Herrmann, Ecologist, at the letterhead address or (801) 975-3330 ext. 139.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. R. Maddux", written in a cursive style.

Henry R. Maddux
Utah Field Supervisor

cc: UDWR - SLC



THE PAIUTE INDIAN TRIBE OF UTAH

440 North Paiute Drive • Cedar City, Utah 84720 • (435) 586-1112

April 05, 2004

Jeff Berna
Environmental Specialist
U. S. Dept. Of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
Utah Division
2520 West 4700 South, Ste. 9A
Salt Lake City, Utah 84118-1847

Dear Mr Berna:

SUBJECT: Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study; Moab, Utah

The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah is in Receipt of your letter February 26, 2004 and have reviewed the material and have no objections pertaining to the project. Our interest is not limited to cultural resources but include plants and natural springs or other places of interest. These particular areas that the proposed project is being considered for, is lands that are part of the aboriginal Southern Paiute home lands. At this time we are not aware of any archaeological resources in or near the proposed site.

Please notify the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah of any cultural information that is found including type and location, also updates or changes to the Project.

Sincerely,

Dorena Martineau

Dorena Martineau
Culture Resource Manager
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah

1.4
AR113**Jones, Laynee G.**

From: Steven Parkin [sparkin@utah.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2004 9:05 AM
To: Jones, Laynee G.
Subject: RE: Request for Overview

Laynee, I've read enough about the Colorado River Bridge project. You may now remove my name from your distribution list. Best wishes.

Steve Parkin
Division Of Air Quality

>>> "Jones, Laynee G." <Laynee.Jones@hdrinc.com> 03/17/04 10:58AM >>>
Steven:

Here are the draft minutes. Would you like me to leave you on the distribution list for materials pertaining to this project?

Laynee
281-8892

From: Steven Parkin [mailto:sparkin@utah.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2004 10:29 AM
To: Jones, Laynee G.
Subject: Request for Overview

I respectfully request an email copy of prepared notes, minutes, letters or memos resulting from the scoping and public meetings which focus on the Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study; mainly, the events of March 3rd. This is a request for overview only; no special care is needed to type/prepare any information that is not already in email-able format.

Steven Parkin
Division Of Air Quality
801-536-4014

4/21/2004

June 17, 2004

JUN 21 2004

Kalen Jones
P.O. Box 1171
Moab, UT 84532

Colorado River Bridge Study Team
3995 South 700 East Suite 100
Salt Lake City UT 84107

Dear Study Team Members,

I am a resident of Moab, and am deeply concerned that the replacement bridge on UT 191 over the Colorado River may not be as well designed or funded as possible, due to an intractable belief by a few community members that a bypass would somehow be in this town's best interest. I encourage you to make the replacement bridge as functional, as far into the future, as possible. Although I would prefer there were no heavy trucks on UT 191, I believe routing them through Moab on the existing highway is, and will continue to be, the best location for them. Please prioritize and fund traffic calming, other ways to slow down trucks and cars, and pedestrian and bicycle safety in your designs for Moab's Main St. / 191. Please do not make any decisions that presuppose that a bypass might be a good idea, or that a bypass would not be highly contentious within this community.

Sincerely,



Kalen Jones

Cc: Kim Manwill



State of Utah

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GAYLE McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOHN R. NJORD, P.E.
Executive Director

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E.
Deputy Director

August 11, 2004

1.3
AR017

Mr. Leigh Kuwanwisiwma
Director, Hopi Cultural Preservation Office
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Subject: BRF-0191(23)128; Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study
Cultural Literature Search Review

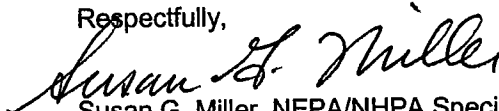
Dear Mr. Kuwanwisiwma:

Thank you for your letter to the Utah Division of the Federal Highway Administration, dated March 2, 2004, requesting consulting party status on this project located near Moab, Utah. As you are aware, the Federal Highway Administration and UDOT are in the process of conducting a feasibility study for improvements to the US-91 crossing of the Colorado River from milepost 126.5 to milepost 129.5, near Moab. The study area is defined as 500 ft either side of the US-191 centerline, which includes Department of Energy, Arches National Park, and Bureau of Land Management lands. The feasibility study will address the need for a new structure, future travel demand, and safety. The study includes public and agency scoping meetings, completing a cultural resource literature search and initial project notification, determining the purpose of and need for the project, identifying project alternatives, and identifying environmental concerns. Following the feasibility study, FHWA and UDOT will prepare an environmental document in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and will complete a cultural resource inventory.

In accordance with your request, please find enclosed for your review and comment a copy of the cultural resources literature search completed by Montgomery Archaeological Consultants. If you are aware of any additional sites that are not discussed in the enclosed, please let me know. Also please indicate if you have any concerns with the National Register of Historic Places eligibility determinations of the previously recorded sites.

Thank you for your efforts. Should you require additional information or assistance, please contact me at (435) 893-4753 or susanmiller@utah.gov.

Respectfully,


Susan G. Miller, NEPA/NHPA Specialist
Region Four Environmental

sgm/enclosure

cc: (w/enclosure)
Jeff Berna, FHWA
(w/out enclosure)
Sandra Garcia, FHWA
Daryl Friant, Environmental Engineer
Kim Marwill, Project Manager
Laynee Jones, HDR Engineering

IDENTICAL COPIES OF THIS LETTER SENT TO THE FOLLOWING:

Tribal Contacts List For : Project #: BRF-0191(23)128, PIN: 3418
Project Description: Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study
Moab, Utah

Original to:	CC to:
Mr. Liegh Kuwanwisiwma Director, Hopi Cultural Preservation Office P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039	
Mr. Joe Shirley, Jr. President, Navajo Nation P.O. Box 9000 Highway 264, Tribal Hills Drive Window Rock, AZ 86515	
Mr. Terry Knight Cultural Representative Ute Mountain Ute Tribe P.O. Box 53 Towaoc, CO 81334	Ms. Judy Knight Frank Chairwoman Ute Mountain Ute Tribe P.O. Box 109 Towaoc, CO 81334
Ms. Elaine Atcitty Chair, White Mesa Ute Council P.O. Box 7096 White Mesa, UT 84511	
Ms. Betsy Chapoose Director of Cultural Rights and Protection Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah/Ouray Agency P.O. Box 190 Fort Duschene, UT 84026	Ms. Maxine Natchees Chairwoman Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah/Ouray Agency P.O. Box 190 Fort Duschene, UT 84026
Mr. Leonard Burch Chair, Southern Ute Tribe P.O. Box 737 Ignacio, Colorado 81137	
Ms. Lora E. Tom Chairwoman, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah 440 North Paiute Drive Cedar City, UT 84720	Ms. Dorena Martineau Cultural Resource Director Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah 440 North Paiute Drive Cedar City, UT 84720



State of Utah

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GAYLE McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOHN R. NJORD, P.E.
Executive Director

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E.
Deputy Director

1.3
AR014

August 11, 2004

Ms. Marilyn Kastens, Archaeologist
U.S. Department of Energy
2597 B ¾ Road
Grand Junction, Colorado 81503

RE: BRF-0191(23)128; Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study
Lit Search Report Review

Dear Ms. Kastens:

The Federal Highway Administration and UDOT are in the process of conducting a feasibility study for improvements to the US-191 crossing of the Colorado River from milepost 126.5 to milepost 129.5, near Moab. The study area is defined as 500 ft either side of the US-191 centerline, which includes Department of Energy Lands. The feasibility study will address the need for a new structure, future travel demand, and safety. The study includes public and agency scoping meetings, completing a cultural resource literature search and initial project notification, determining the purpose of and need for the project, identifying project alternatives, and identifying environmental concerns. Following the feasibility study, FHWA and UDOT will prepare an environmental document in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and will complete a cultural resource inventory.

Montgomery Archaeological Consultants recently completed a literature search for cultural resources. Please find enclosed a copy of their results for your review and comment. If you are aware of any cultural resources within the study area that are not presented, please let me know. Also, please indicate if you have any concerns with the National Register of Historic Places eligibility determinations of the previously recorded sites. FHWA is also consulting with Native American tribal governments, who may identify additional sites.

Thank you for your efforts. Should you require additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact me at (435) 893-4753 or susanmiller@utah.gov.

Respectfully,

Susan G. Miller, NEPA/NHPA Specialist
Region Four Environmental

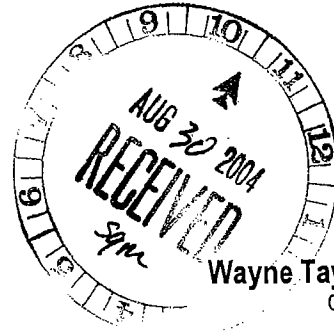
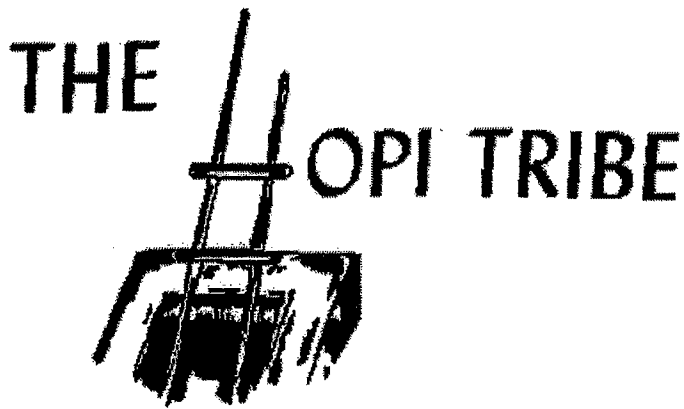
sgm/enclosure

cc: (w/out enclosure)

Sandra Garcia, FHWA
Daryl Friant, Environmental Engineer
Kim Manwill, Project Manager
Laynee Jones, HDR Engineering

Identical Copies of this Letter Sent to the Following:

Ms. Marilyn Kastens, Archaeologist US Department of Energy 2597 B ¾ Road Grand Junction, CO 81503	Ms. Chris Goetze, Archaeologist Arches National Park 2282 SW Resource Blvd Moab, UT 84532
Ms. Donna Turnipseed, Archaeologist Moab Field Office Bureau of Land Management 82 East Dogwood Moab, UT 84532	



Wayne Taylor, Jr.
CHAIRMAN

Caleb Johnson
VICE-CHAIRMAN

August 20, 2004

Susan G. Miller, NEPA/NHPA Specialist
Utah Department of Transportation, Region Four Environmental
1345 South 350 West
Richfield, Utah 84701

Re: BRF-0191(23)128, Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study, Moab Utah

Dear Ms. Miller,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated August 11, 2004, with an enclosed cultural resources literature search, in response to our March 2, 2004, letter regarding the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) Colorado River Bridge Feasibility Study for improvements to US 91 crossing the Colorado River between mileposts 126.5 and 129.5, near Moab. As you know, the Hopi Tribe appreciates FHWA and UDOT's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

As you also know, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties. We have reviewed the enclosed *Class I Cultural Resource Study for the Colorado River Bridge Project, Grand County, Utah* by Montgomery Archaeological Consultants. The report identifies three previously recorded prehistoric sites in this project area, including Courthouse Was Pictograph Panel, 42Gr605, and two rock shelters, 42Gr2074 and 42Gr3223. In addition, the report states that several prehistoric rock art panels and structural sites are known to occur along the cliffs and talus slopes between the Colorado River and Courthouse Wash in Arches National Park. Therefore, we look forward to receiving a copy of the cultural resources inventory for review and comment and hope that all identified prehistoric sites can be avoided by project activities.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for consulting with the Hopi Tribe.

Respectfully,

Leigh J. Kuswanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office